

Westgate HD5 8XJ



Sunday 27th September 2020

Prayer for the Week

Creator God, may we rejoice in our creatureliness and our utter dependence on you, May we delight that we are all wonderfully made in your image and likeness. Christ who redeems, restores us and re-creates us, may we see you revealed to us each day in the Faces of our sisters and brothers and may we become one gloriously differing, but united, community. Creative Spirit, the breath of God present in all creation, may we treasure and protect your very Great gift, our world and yours, our home and yours. Holy Trinity, Creator, re-creator, creative Spirit be with us and bless us. Amen.

(Helen Cameron, Northampton District Chair)

ZOOM ON SUNDAY

**Almondbury Methodist Church
Invites you to join in worship on-line using Zoom
Sunday, 27th September 2020 at 10.30 am**

If anyone needs help getting and/or installing Zoom, please contact John Shaw on 01484 304730. Finally, you need the meeting number and password which will be sent out separately.

Short video services for download

Local Almondbury produced short video services continue to be available weekly for download from the AMC website: <http://www.almondburymethodist.org.uk/thisweeksdairy.html> and can be found in the lower part of the page. They can also be accessed from the first page of the website under 'Coronavirus News and Downloadable Services'. These can be watched at any time. (Mike Richardson)

Sunday 27th September, 10.30 am - service in church which will also be Zoomed so people can come to church or access it online.

Sunday Bible Study Group, Sundays 8.00 pm via Zoom for an hour to look at and discuss various items. We have just finished looking at a book called "God and the Pandemic" by Tom Wright. Next Sunday we are each going to choose a psalm we like (or hate) and bring it for discussion at the meeting. We might examine two or three in the hour or perhaps more (or less) Who knows? However, Psalms 23 and 119 are banned! We are a friendly group so if you feel like joining in, you would be most welcome. Just contact John Rushton, Sandra or Richard for the Zoom number. Thanks. (Sandra)
NB the next meeting will be on Sunday, 4th October.

Thursday, 1st October, 10.30 am: Prayer Service in Church

Sunday, 4th October, 10.30 am Harvest Festival Service from Church which will also be on Zoom.

Harvest 2020

Once again we will be supporting The Welcome Centre and All We Can at our Harvest service. This year we are also inviting members of the local village community to bring tinned or packet produce for The Welcome Centre.



The church vestibule will be open on Friday 2 October from 10am to 4pm to receive gifts – friends from Church are also welcome at this time if they are unable to be present at our Sunday services on either 27 September or 2 October, or Thursday 1 October.

Instead of attaching £1 coins to our food items, this year there will be a box for donations to All We Can – the box will be in the vestibule on the Friday and under the pulpit during services for donations on the way out of church.

Christine's latest display for Harvest is on the right.

Junior Church Display



Those of us who are able to join the Zoom services on Sunday mornings are greatly appreciating the input from our four members of Junior Church. Each week Sandra Oldroyd has contacted them and encouraged them to think about the theme she has chosen and to create some craftwork which they have then shown us during the service. Sandra has now brought these creations together in a display in the vestibule. We are grateful for all the work that has gone into this – to Ruby, Jacob, Emmeline and Alexander, and to Gemma, Helen and Andrew, and Sandra: your efforts are much appreciated.



OUR SHORTAGES



This year has been particularly challenging for everyone. Many people have lost their lives, members of their families, their jobs and have found themselves in challenging circumstances.

The Welcome Centre has continued to support those in financial crisis throughout the COVID19 pandemic, and we imagine that there will be many more new people to support due to job loss and the end of furlough.

Shortages at the moment include tins of fruit cocktail, curry, meat-free Bolognese, Bolognese sauce, sardines, beef paste, smash potato, chocolate digestive biscuits, ravioli, new potatoes, custard creams, tuna, vegetable curry long grain rice, spaghetti bolognese nb: brand does not matter

The Welcome Centre is one of the largest food banks in the north of England; the number of people using food banks across the UK has risen from tens of thousands to millions since 2010.

There are many factors contributing to the rise of food poverty, including national welfare reforms, the rise of zero hours contracts, and struggling local economies. The Welcome Centre provides food, toiletries and other essentials alongside a one-to-one advocacy, guidance and support service tailored to people's needs.

The people we help all have one thing in common: they're in crisis.



All We Can is an international development and relief organisation, working to see every person's potential fulfilled. Focussed on serving the world's most marginalised communities, All We Can is rooted in the Christian faith.

Our mission: All We Can works through partnership alongside our global neighbours most impacted by disasters, poverty and injustice to enable flourishing and resilient communities.

What do we do? Change happens when we all work together.

All We Can has served the most marginalised on earth for the last eight decades – since a group of Methodists answered the call of refugees in Europe, in the 1930s. Our story is about the inherent value and potential in all people. Whether children fleeing tyranny; communities facing extreme poverty, or families hit by disaster, we answer through partnering with local innovators, projects and churches to unleash potential.

We work with the very poorest communities, and have developed a reputation for doing development differently: pioneering sustainable, locally-owned solutions in response to John Wesley's call to, 'Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.'

This year please bring your gifts to either of the Sunday services on 27 September or 4 October; the vestibule will also be open on Friday 2 October from 10am to 4pm when we are hoping that members of the village community may also make donations. There will be a box in the vestibule for gifts of money for All We Can (£1 coins should not be attached to tins this year please). Alternatively financial donations may be made via:

https://www.thewelcomecentre.org/donation_invoices/new/campaign2

<https://www.allwecan.org.uk/give/make-a-donation/>

“Planning for Mission Workbook” – the Church Council has agreed to use and adapt this connexional Workbook to explore the mission and life of the church in the light of our present situation. This will include looking at activities we do or wish to do and the viability of the premises to do this. The Church Council wishes to set up a small group of six to facilitate this. If you are interested, please look at the workbook found on the Methodist Church website at: <https://www.methodist.org.uk/our-work/our-work-in-britain/evangelism-growth/leading-churches-into-growth/write-a-great-mission-plan/mission-planning-toolkit/> and then contact our Minister if you interested in being involved. A Zoom meeting will then be set up for those interested from which the steering group can be established, which initially will have to meet on Zoom. As not everyone can be on the steering group for practical reasons there will still be opportunities for anyone who wishes to give input into the process.

Life Community Services – Child Sponsorship – because of the Lockdown we have not been able to put out the collection box for our sponsorship of 10-year old Newton which costs £30 a month. Currently this money has had to come out of church funds but now we are starting to open the Church the box will be waiting for your donations or money can be given to Jenny Prewett.

Tim's Blog: <https://revtimf.blogspot.com/> – Tim will be posting a brief morning prayer video on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

In Touch Magazine – contributions for the next edition to be submitted by Friday, 30th October 2020 to suzhimc@gmail.com

The Welcome Centre – ways of contributing to the Welcome Centre will be updated in due course. In the meantime, please see Harvest Festival news on the previous page.

Items for next week's notices to John Robinson either by email: johnhrobinson@btinternet.com or phone 01484 512081 by Thursday, 1st October please.